

Medicaid; the general business loan guaranty program and section 504 certified development company program; surety bond guarantees revolving fund; visitors services on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management; disease control, research, and training; Indian self-determination and self-governance projects and activities of tribes or tribal organizations; expenses of the Kendall Demonstration Elementary School and the Model Secondary School for the Deaf; and payments for benefits and interest on advances, and expenses of operation and administration, for black lung disabilities and disabled coal miners.

This measure also extends, from December 31, 1995, to June 30, 1996, the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 1994 and extends the San Carlos Apache Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 1992 from December 31, 1995, to December 31, 1996. The bill also includes fisheries related provisions.

Even with H.R. 1643 and H.R. 1358 in place, however, the Congress has not funded significant activities covered by the six appropriations bills that are not enacted. The Congress has not provided funds to help put 100,000 more police officers on the streets of our communities; funds for the States for social services and job training; funds for Head Start; funds to help U.S. businesses with export financing; funds to help the Environmental Protection Agency enforce environmental laws; and funds to continue the Shuttle program and other key initiatives at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Along with denying services to our citizens, the shutdown is threatening the vitality of thousands of businesses which supply goods and services to the Federal Government under contract. The jobs of thousands of workers in those businesses are at risk. The longer the shutdown continues, the more that its effects will be felt. Clearly, this is no way to run the Government and deliver services and benefits to millions of Americans, whether they are elderly, children, students, working parents, or businessmen and women.

More than 3 months into fiscal 1996, the Congress has not even sent me three of the

six remaining, full-year appropriations bills. I vetoed the other three because they would have been bad for the country. Those bills underfunded essential programs for the environment, for veterans, for law enforcement, for technology, and for Native Americans.

At this point, the Congress should work with me to reach agreement on these six measures. At the very least, the Congress should send me an acceptable continuing resolution that will fully reopen the Government while they work with me to find common ground on the budget.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 6, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 1358, approved January 6, was assigned Public Law No. 104-91.

Message to the Congress Transmitting Balanced Budget Legislation

January 6, 1996

To the Congress of the United States:

I hereby submit to the Congress a plan to achieve a balanced budget not later than the fiscal year 2002 as certified by the Congressional Budget Office on January 6, 1996. This plan has been prepared by Senator Daschle and if passed in its current form by the Congress, I would sign it into law.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 6, 1996.

Open Letter to Federal Government Employees on the Furlough

January 6, 1996

We want to welcome back those of you who have been furloughed and express our deep appreciation to *all* of you in the federal work force.

Through no fault of your own, you have been forced to carry on in very difficult circumstances—some of you on furlough, and more of you unpaid, all of you doubtless unsettled. Although the continuing resolutions